



Search Committee Formed for Religious Educator *Participate in a Focus Group on Oct 4 or 11*

A Search Committee has been formed to seek a new Director of Lifespan Religious Education (DLRE). While Rev. Colleen Vahey is irreplaceable in our hearts, we know that her departure presents us with more than simply loss, it offers us an opportunity to both appreciate and think forward for our Lifespan Religious Education Program. During this interim period, we are fortunate to have Lisa Vanderbleek on board as our interim RE Coordinator this year, along with a strong and cohesive Religious Education Team. We will receive Interim Consultation support from our Regional UUA Staff and locally based Religious Education Consultation, as well.

Members of the DLRE Search Committee are Judy Ball, CarolAnn Shindelar (co-chairs), Linda Berry, Kathryn Hillyer, Chuck Smith, Kim Tilford, with the support of Rev. Hilary. The committee invites all those interested in the future of our Lifespan Religious Education Program, which includes both Children and Youth RE as well as Adult Faith Development, to share their thoughts about RE programming and ideas for future directions. Mini focus groups will be held at the north end of Atherton Hall between services on October 4 and 11, to provide input. The groups will convene at 10:15 sharp and will end in plenty of time to attend the 11:00 service. No need to RSVP—just come on by.

The DLRE Search Committee is already hard at work preparing the materials necessary to find the best candidate to lead our religious education program. The committee will be conducting a nationwide search and plans to begin interviews early next year, and make an offer by the end of March. This will help ensure our candidate has enough time to make a smooth transition over the summer and begin work in fall of 2016.

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Participate in Social Justice Discussions



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF **Sun, Oct 4 and 11**

LOVE

Join us in Atherton Hall for one or both of these discussions, following second service and sponsored by our Social Action Committee. *See p.4 for details.*

- **Oct 4: Economic Inequality**—a continuation of the conversation started by the July 26 worship service. Bring a dish to share for a potluck lunch.
- **Oct 11: Black Lives Matter**—we welcome the return of Cliff Nellis from Lawndale Christian Legal Center for this discussion, which will be a good follow-up to Rev. Hilary's sermon that day as well as to the Ferguson discussions we had last year. Pizza lunch will be served.



Illusions & Make Believe A Vespers Service for All Ages with Real Food

Weds, Oct 28 at 5:45 pm

Dinner will begin at 5:45. Rev. Krivchenia and Ministerial Intern Eileen Wiviott will lead the vespers service, which will begin at 7:00 pm and last approximately 30 minutes. *Dinner will be provided.* Suggested donation on a sliding scale from \$0- \$10.



Minister's Muse

In my youth, my parents had a fun album by musician Tom Lehrer titled "That was the year that was." I can still sing some of the songs by heart, like the classic "Pollution"

*See the halibuts and the sturgeons
Being wiped out by detergeons
Fish gotta swim and birds gotta fly
But they don't last long if they try.
Pollution, pollution!
They got smog and sewage and mud.
Turn on your tap
And get hot and cold running crud!*

Such lyrics were brilliant to a kid in grade school. Humorous but more haunting was "So Long Mom," written, as many war songs have been, to build camaraderie, nostalgia, or morale. Lehrer joked that, if there were going to be any songs about WW3, we'd better write them now—

*So long mom, I'm off to drop the bomb
so don't wait up for me
although I may roam
I'll come back to my home
though it may be a pile of debris...
I'll look for you when the war is over
An hour and a half from now!*

It's a cheery tune and made me laugh, but certainly contributed to recurrent nightmares about the end of the world.

Then there was the "Vatican Rag." Some context: we were the only (even nominally) Jewish family in my neighborhood and elementary school, surrounded by Catholics whose children were my friends and had quite a knack for letting me know that I was going to hell and for using words they'd heard at home that shocked and hurt me in grade school. The "Vatican Rag" lightened my heart about it all, though it took me years to understand what half the words meant – Like genuflect, pontiff, sin, and the biggie: transubstantiation.

*Do what ever steps you want if
You have cleared them with the pontiff
Everybody say his own kyrie eleison
Doin' the Vatican Rag
Get in line in that processional
Step into that small confessional
There the guy who's got religion'll
Tell you if your sin's original.*

It made me think of Catholicism as a quaint religion. I didn't have to feel so hurt by harsh words since I didn't quite have to take Catholicism seriously.

Yesterday, after I heard Pope Francis address Congress, setting aside my murmuring concerns about separation of church and state, I started joyfully singing from the Rag, "Ave Maria, Gee it's good to see ya." The Pope is bound by dogma and has, as do all clergy, to walk a line between pushing the faith forward and giving adherents and leadership whiplash. In the face of that, he's a man of coherent and sincere faith, willing to take the Christianity that I associate with Jesus – the Sermon on the Mount – to Congress where so many political beasts



In Sympathy

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to John Denny, our music director emeritus, on the death of his son on September 23.

Wellness Beyond Walls Deep Hypnosis Program

Starting on Saturday, October 3 at 10 am, Countryside Church will start to offer a program of deep hypnosis to help people with cancer and their families. The program is a partnership between Wellness House in Hinsdale and Countryside Church and is led by our community minister, Dr. Giles.

Based on the work of Dr. Bernie Siegel of Yale, this program is currently held in other Chicagoland locations where it often runs full. This section will be intended to serve people in our local area.

The program is free and is open to anyone in our geographical area who has or has had cancer in any form and to their caretaking or family members. It uses hypnosis to promote healing, emotional resilience, and comprehensive stress management. Space is limited and you must register. To register, call (630) 654-5197 or email kmitchell@wellnesshouse.org.

Minister's Muse (cont'd)

wrap themselves in the American flag or the Bible or both.

The address to Congress was gently spoken, in the manner of a preacher who's learned that there are times when the hardest messages must be given tenderly. He called the U.S. to live into its promise as a beacon of democracy, a home for immigrants, and a place where the "American dream" can be made real.

What moves me about the Pope is that his faith is not mere words, it's neither convenient nor opportunistic – standing on the side of the poor and marginalized, only when there's political advantage. A frequent critique of this Pope is that he seems to be disappointing both political liberals and political traditionalists. I think that those disappointments are an indicator that he's being faithful to his ethics and his belief about the teaching of Jesus and that somehow, everyone should be able to give a bit in a conflict when no one is perfectly pleased.

This Pope makes good faith look like a challenge to the ways we live from day to day, that takes deep reflection and then action. He makes good faith look like something that is not simply a vertical relationship between a believer and a G_d, but as though it's something we keep horizontally between all humans and between all humans and nature, of which we are a part. In fact, any good faith should be all those things – even Unitarian Universalism. It's tempting when he departs to think "so long and thanks for all the fish" (it's Friday after all). But I think I'll stick with "Ave Maria, gee it's good to see ya!" and wish this Pope the power to keep ever stronger faith with life, love, and compassion even as the pressures of the world act upon him. Come to think of it – it's what I wish for us all.

Board Happenings

Your Board of Trustees (BOT) met the last weekend of August at the University of St. Mary on the Lake for a two-day retreat. Our primary focus was to take an in-depth look at the final report of the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC).

We began by taking a look at current trends in church membership, using two recent PEW studies and also reviewing the information Rev. Giles presented at our June BOT meeting about the current financial picture of the UUA. Did you know that there are over 500,000 people in the US who identify as UUs but only a little over 100,000 are actually pledging members of a UU congregation? Virtually all organized religious organizations are losing membership. The fact that UUs are not growing but are holding steady actually puts us in a better place than most denominations.

The studies make it clear that religious organizations need to adapt if they want to stay vibrant. People still want—and need--- to be part of communities that give meaning to their lives, but the way increasing numbers of people participate or commit to an organization is changing. What does that mean for us at Countryside? It means we need to be serious about having an organizational structure that is sustainable, both financially and in the use of our time and talents. It also means we need to have conversations about how we as a congregation want to stay vibrant and purposeful in a constantly changing world.

With this background information, we turned our attention to the work of the SPC. We took each of the Vision and Strategy statements and determined which were adaptive and which were technical. We defined technical as those strategies or statements that were more about 'how' to accomplish something and adaptive strategies as those that were more about having or defining a vision for action.

The BOT will be having a retreat with the Ministry Council, the leaders of the program side of our congregation, in early October. We will spend time sharing the goals the board has set for ourselves for this year and work together to prioritize those strategies from the SPC study that we have identified as adaptive. That work will be shared with committees and teams as we all work to choose the best ways to act on our vision and live our UU principles.

Your board is always interested in your thoughts and concerns. Please feel free to contact me at Prez@ccuu.org.

Karen Noorani
President, Board of Trustees

From Our Music Director



Dear Countryside,
Thank you so much for the warm welcome I am receiving here at Countryside. So many people have been reaching out to offer kind words and assistance as I find my way in your congregation. I was so touched by the kind words, the decorative and delicious cakes and flowers, and the beautiful satin, musical stole which I will wear with pride and reverence. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I look forward to getting to know you better and more personally in the time to come. And I simply cannot let an opportunity go by without extending an invitation to each of you who may have a desire to participate in the music of Countryside. We are always welcoming singers into the choir. Just let me know of your interest, and I will try to answer any of your concerns. Also, if you play an instrument and might be willing to occasionally play in church, let me know as well. You can reach me at 847-359-8440 ext. 5 or Music.Director@ccuu.org.

We have much to look forward to here at Countryside and I am thankful to be a part of it all.

Alison Vernon, Director of Music

Time, Talent and Trivia

Saturday November 21, 2015

Mark your calendars for this year's Time and Talent Auction Countryside's largest fundraiser for our Service Partners.

We have an exciting mix of party sign ups, silent and live auction items, and this year's event includes a friendly (or is that competitive?) game of trivia. So bone up on current events, history, celebrity gossip and more. We promise it will be interesting, challenging and lots of fun. More details will be disclosed over the next few weeks.



Write your expression of gratitude for someone who makes a difference in the life of the congregation and who may go unrecognized and place it in the "Grateful Box" in Atherton Hall. There are

also notes available if you wish to thank the person directly. Special Gratitude this month to:

- The Ingathering Potluck Team: Lisa Bohne, Juli Cicarelli, Barbara Griggs, Krista and Tom MacTavish, Edie Scott, Sheilah Sokeland.
- Raymond Yee for his continual service to the congregation by hosting coffee fellowship every week and by being willing to train other fellowship hosts
- Judy Miller and Ken Sepos for their many, many hours of weeding & grounds work
- Mark Huston, Lois & Jeff Phillips, Karl Michalec, Mike Graves, Chris Smith for their help in setting up the new office furniture
- Mark & Kristin Huston for their help in obtaining the new, free office furniture



Social Action News

Economic Inequality Discussion: Sunday, Oct 4

Join us in Atherton Hall at Noon; please bring a potluck offering for lunch. This will be a time to further explore the ideas from this summer's Inequality Service (July 26).

There will be a variety of activities. We'll show some short videos, give some readings, try some activities that could be part of a larger workshop or class, and explore ideas for actions we can take.

Since none of us is an expert in this, we see ourselves as facilitating the journey rather than being teachers, so please come along prepared to discover and contribute. Economic Inequality is such a broad issue that touches so many areas of society: economics, class, racism, sexism, environmental justice, etc., that we will not be short of subject matter. We imagine our explorations will overlap with other groups and issues at the church and can help inform our work with them.

For those of you who missed the service, the slides and sermon are available at these links.

The PowerPoint slides: <http://tinyurl.com/odzic8j>

The sermon text: <http://tinyurl.com/obj565b>

Black Lives Matter Discussion ***Sunday Oct 11, 12:30 pm***

Join us in Atherton Hall to learn more about mass incarceration, a broken criminal justice system, and the work one organization is doing with court-involved youth in Chicago. We will be joined by Cliff Nellis, executive director & founder of Lawndale Christian Legal Center. This will be a good follow-up discussion to Rev. Hilary's worship service on October 11 and a continuation of discussion begun last year around the events in Ferguson, MO. Pizza lunch will be provided; free will donations will be collected to help cover the cost of the pizza. Hope you can join us!

Monthly Fair Trade Sales: Oct 25 & Nov 8

Once/month during coffee-fellowship, we offer fair trade items from Equal Exchange for sale. This is your opportunity to purchase fair trade coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil, and snacks.

PADS Homeless Shelter Support

It is once again time for another season of PADS to begin. PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) is the network of shelters managed by JOURNEYS: The Road Home that provides a safe place to sleep and nutritious meals for the homeless in the Northwest Suburbs.

CCUU will provide the meal for the shelter at Presbyterian Church of Palatine (PCOP) on the fourth Wednesday of every month from October through April. Please look for the meal sign ups in the weekly e-update, starting the first week of October. If you have questions about PADS or Journeys, or would like more information on how to become a volunteer at one of the shelters, please contact Angelina Huntsha at akhuntsha@hotmail.com. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Religious Education (R.E.) News

Registration for Fall Religious Education

For safety reasons, it is important that all children, infants through senior high, be registered. Registering your child will also ensure that we have your contact information so we can communicate program & class-specific information with the families.

You can register online (see pages 9-11 of this newsletter) or via paper (pick up a registration from from the Study Ministry table or from the RE Welcome Table). If you were part of our R.E. program last year, you may have received an email last week with registration info.

If you have questions, please contact Lisa Vanderbleek, RE.Assistant@ccuu.org.



Faith in Action

Oct 4 & Nov 1, 9 am & 11 am

Faith in Action is our monthly service learning for young people.

It will kick off this year on Sunday, Oct 4, at both services. We will hear from CCUU youth who participated in UU College of Social Justice programs over the summer.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, we will hear from congregation member Dan Huntsha about Green Sanctuary & Sustainable Living.

We hope you will join us!

Hear ye! Hear ye! Child Dedications!

On Sun., Nov. 22, during our All-Ages Thanksgiving Service, we will offer Child Dedications for the children of members of the congregation. We typically do these at Thanksgiving because of our gratitude for the presence of children in the life of our congregation. For UUs, a child dedication is a time to publicly celebrate the life of a child, to honor the parents, and to affirm the commitment and role of the congregation in supporting the life and growth of that child. A family can choose to dedicate a child at any time—when they move to this congregation with young children, shortly after birth or adoption, in infancy or when a child is older. We offer the child dedication at both the 9 am and 11 am services, so you can select which service is best for you and your family. If you are interested, please let Rev. Hilary know and she will email you the materials to help in preparing for the dedication. There is no fee for the child dedication.

If a family has not yet joined the congregation but wants a service of naming for their child, that can be arranged at a time when they can invite family and friends for a personal dedication. However, we encourage you to wait until you are ready to fully become a part of our faith community -- a powerful sense of connection and support awaits you and your children, as members. If you choose to do a service of naming apart from the Sunday morning rite, there is a fee for this.

Thank you for making a difference!

Countryside's generous contributions to six service partners in the 2014/2015 fiscal year totaled more than \$26,000 last year, and this year we look forward to continuing that tradition.

The Outreach Steering Committee spoke with many of you, and after much deliberation, decided that we can be more effective with a focus on fewer partners. This year, we are pleased to partner with the following three organizations:

- **Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants** includes faith and community based organizations, religious leaders and congregations from Illinois who are called to accompany our immigrant sisters and brothers caught in the detention and deportation system and to work for more just immigration policies. Liaison: Melanie Schikore
- **Faith In Place** has as its mission to inspire religious people of diverse faiths to care for the Earth through connection, education, and advocacy. Liaison: Dan Huntsha
- **Palatine Opportunity Council** is a network of civic, educational and government institutions, religious, business, charitable and community organizations and a strong volunteer force from the community at large who provide services to the residents of Palatine Township so that they can become active members of the community. Liaison: Matt Myren

The Countryside liaisons are working with these partners to understand their needs and provide opportunities for members of the Congregation to volunteer time with them. For more information, be sure to attend the Ministry Fair on September 27.

This year's outreach events are scheduled for November and March.

1. Countryside's Annual Time and Talent Auction on **Saturday, November 21**
2. Music with a Mission: Saturday, **March 5**. This will be an evening of entertainment not to be missed and is a great opportunity to bring along your friends or neighbors. Remember, 100% of the proceeds from these two events will go directly to our service partners.

OSC members include Melanie Schikore, Mike Graves, Matt Myren and Laura Mandell. Please contact any one of the members with input on outreach efforts at Countryside, or email fundraising@ccuu.org.

Say it Seven Ways

A few years ago, Mark and I were blessed with a trip to Europe to meet the large but long lost branches of his family tree. On the way to Belarus, we stopped in Switzerland to visit Beni and his wife Mevina, chosen family, at an old farmhouse in Ramosch (population 487) that has been in her family for a few hundred years. We were there at the end of July, in time for the 1st of August, which is Swiss National Day. On August 1, atop every mountain and tall hill throughout (at least in the Lower Engadin, which is in Southern Switzerland, bordered by both Italy and Austria) at a prescribed hour, a huge bonfire is lit. In ancient times, these fires passed a warning from one town or municipality to another if there were invaders. We watched in the evening when, at 8:30 or so, the fires were lit mountain by mountain. It was a fast, effective, and simple means of communication. Today, lighting a fire is flashy but no longer very effective.

Often, in congregational life, it's important to get the word out about something – an event, a new idea, a new policy. Today, our messages get lost in a flood of other messages and media. To get people's attention, to get your message across, you are competing with messages on Facebook, Email, Twitter, TV, even radio, webpages, magazines, blogs, your news app, the scuttlebutt at the office, a billboard....

This is an active congregation, and with everything that we keep cooking up, getting the word out is a challenge. I know that I have written a bit about this before, but it bears repeating. There was a time in our history – in the history of pretty much any faith community – that it was enough to show up at worship, listen to a few announcements, and you'd have a pretty good idea of what was going on. Today, that's no longer the case. It would take a whole Sunday service to fit in all the activities here at Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist.

If you have an important message, it's said by media experts, church consultants, and assorted rag-tag pundits that you need to find at least seven different ways of getting the word out. Here, that would mean a sign in the entry hall shortly before the event, in the newsletter, in the weekly e-update, in the blue insert in the order of worship (perhaps not just in a paragraph of text but in a way that will grab the eye and attention of the reader), on the website, in a poster and flyer in Atherton Hall, or a half page planted on seats in the sanctuary. It would be great if we had a volunteer who would put the material from the Blue insert and any other special events into a powerpoint or keynote presentation that could be shown on the big screen during coffee hour. It would be great if we could create a CCUU app that would have a world of information organized by topic and interest and easily accessible to anyone with a computer or smart phone.

That is only half the challenge. The other half, not to be underestimated, is that everyone who is interested in participating, deepening spiritually, getting and being involved, needs to take the time and responsibility to explore, ask about, read, and watch for the activities and ways of growing and serving here at CCUU.

So here's a challenge: When you have a church event, find at least seven ways to get the word out. Be creative and surprising and even repetitive. Be friendly and inviting. And when you are here to bring more life to your spirit and more spirit to your life, be curious, look around, and expect a welcome.

...Hilary

Our worship service and religious education program are on Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 am.

Religious Education classes: at 9:00, for infants through grade 4; at 11:00, for infants through Senior High.

NOTE: Announcements begin 5 minutes prior to the start of the worship service.

Worship descriptions are also on the church website: www.ccuu.org/worship-a-music/worship-schedule.html

Oct 4 at 9 & 11 am Small Craft in a Sea of Change Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Young people begin in their classrooms; Faith in Action service learning for young people in grades 2 and above.

Oct 11 at 9 & 11 am Power, Assertion, Aggression Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Young people in grades 2 and above begin in the Sanctuary with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms.

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to Lawndale Christian Legal Center for their work helping youth walk through and away from the criminal justice system to become good citizens and leaders of the community through criminal defense legal services, social health services, and loving mentors.

Oct 18 at 9 & 11 am Spiritual Journeys Tim Reuter-Bowers and Joy Simon

Spiritual Journeys services are offered a few times each year and are an opportunity for us to hear the stories of fellow CCUU members.

Young people in grades 2 and above begin in the Sanctuary with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms.

Oct 25 at 9 & 11 am Aging on Acceptable Terms Rem Stokes

Young people in grades 2 and above begin in the Sanctuary with their families; all other young people begin in their classrooms.

Share the Plate: Half of the cash collected in the offering will be donated to Journeys The Road Home, the organization which oversees and plans for shelter for those who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless in suburban Cook County. Journeys works to provide intervention and support to address the root cause of homelessness and to lead people back to a stable environment. The goal of its PADS Emergency Shelter Program is to provide hospitality, food, and overnight emergency shelter for the homeless between October 1 and April 30, seven days a week.

*****Daylight Saving Time Ends; clocks fall back one hour when you go to bed on Oct 31.*****

Nov 1 at 9 & 11 am Spirits Beyond the Veil Rev. Hilary Krivchenia

Young people begin in their classrooms; Faith in Action service learning for young people in grades 2 and above.

Sound Meditation

November 11, 7:00 pm

Enjoy the soothing sounds of crystal bowls, followed by waves of resounding vibrations from Paiste gongs played by Rev. Krivchenia and Elizabeth Vesto.

Bring a mat or blanket if you would like to stretch out, or you can sit in chairs for support. Come in comfortable clothes and bring a blanket in case you get cool when you relax. A free will offering will be welcomed and will go toward expanding our sound healing and bell resources at CCUU. Join our Meetup group, Primal Wave Sound Meditation, to receive updates on future events. Contact us at primalwavesoundmeditation@gmail.com or 847-847-7068 with any questions.

Open Forum Discussion

Forum meets each Sunday morning to discuss “the issues of the day” while respectfully welcoming different perspectives. We meet in classroom 5 at 8:45 am and socialize for 15 minutes before discussing the day’s topic from 9-10 am. To be added to the Forum email list, contact Vid Axel, vidaxel@axeldesigns.com. Our upcoming tentatively scheduled topics are:

- Oct 4: Globalization—the Good & the Bad
- Oct 11: The School to Prison Pipeline
- Oct 18: Root Causes of Polarization in Washington DC
- Oct 25: The Pope’s Epic Visit & the Responsibility of other religious leaders to speak out
- Nov 1: Universal Health Care—A Future Possibility?

Hospitality

Sunday morning hospitality begins with each & every one of us! You can sign up to serve as usher, greeter, A/V, or coffee for a service—and help us further the reach of love through these acts of hospitality and welcome. Links to job descriptions are available on the sign-up page—www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044ea4a72fa13-Sunday.

We are working on forming TEAMS of ushers, greeters, coffee hosts, and A/V assistants. If you would be willing to be part of one of these teams, please let the church office know, ccuu@ccuu.org, or fill out a Congregational Engagement sheet to let us know that.

Many thanks to those who helped this past month!

20-30 Somethings

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11:15 am

If you are in your 20s or 30s, please join us! For more info, email 2030Somethings@ccuu.org. Childcare is available.

Atheist-Humanist-Agnostic (AHA) Discussion Group

2nd Tuesdays, 7 pm

All are welcome to join us on October 13. During the first hour, we will watch and discuss a 30-minute video about a woman who was in a religious cult for many years, got out, and became an atheist. During the second hour, we will watch and discuss a 30-minute video on atheism which aired on CNN.

Yoga

Fridays, Oct 2, 23, 30 at 7pm

Join Elizabeth Vesto for gentle flow yoga to let go of the stress from the week. Each session will end with an extended meditation, including guided meditations and gongs. Bring a mat, straps, and blocks if you have them, otherwise there will be extras to borrow. Donations to CCUU will be accepted.

No yoga on Friday, Oct.9 or 16. Contact me at primal-wavesoundmeditation@gmail.com if you are interested in joining me in Lisle (at the studio where I study) for a therapeutic session with my teacher on Oct 9. ~Elizabeth

QiGong

Join Emmett in classroom 9/10 from 10-11 am to experience slow, gentle body movements & guided meditation. *October dates: Tuesdays, Oct 6, 13, 20. Note: For the time being, QiGong will not meet on Saturdays.*

Transitions

Thurs, Oct 22, 10:00 am

This Kinship group for adult members and friends of CCUU meets the 4th Thursday of the month. The October program is Immigrant Stories. Guest speaker Clara Stone will share her story of leaving Cuba and assimilating to the U.S. Potluck meal to follow at 11:30; bring a dish to share or your own brownbag lunch. Contact Gloria Kinney for more info. *Note: in November and December, due to the holidays, we will be meeting on the 3rd Thursday.*

Buddhist Study Group

Sun, Oct. 11, 12:30 pm

We meet on the second Sunday of the month, 12:30 – 2 pm, in the Sanctuary. At the October meeting, we will discuss Thich Nhat Hanh's new book, Silence: The Power of Quiet in a World Full of Noise.

Journey Inward

3rd Wednesdays, 7 pm

Join us in the Sanctuary to explore and learn about metaphysics, spirituality, alternative healing modalities and much more. For more info, visit www.journey-inward.com.

Monthly Meatless Potlucks

Sunday, Oct 25, 5 pm

Please join us in Atherton Hall. Bring a vegan (no meat, eggs, dairy, or honey in the ingredients) dish to share that more-or-less serves 6-8. We will provide drinks, dishes, utensils. If this is your first time attending and you don't know what to bring, please just bring yourself. For more info, contact Sheryl Bass, mystics999@aol.com, or Steve Combs, stephencomb@gmail.com.

Sacred Heartbeat Drum Circle

Sat., Oct 3, 7 pm

Join us on Oct 3 from 7-9 p.m. in Atherton Hall for free style drumming in a low key, loving, peaceful, welcoming environment. No drumming experience necessary! This is an adult drum circle but teenagers are welcome. Dancing and chanting is encouraged. For more info, visit www.meetup.com/Sacred-Heartbeat-Drum-Circle.

Upcoming Book Discussions

Book Circle

Sunday, Nov. 1, 6:15 pm

All are invited to join us in classroom 6 to discuss Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande. We gather at 6:15; discussion begins at 6:30.

Last Mondays Book Discussion

All are welcome to join us at 7pm in the Stokes Room for any of our upcoming discussions:

- Oct 26: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Feminine Divine Women's Group

This year, we have added a group! The original group, which meets the last Saturday of the month, is discussing "The Return of the Feminine and the World Soul" by Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee. This book is a collection of readings and talks by the author, a Sufi teacher. His premise is that feminine qualities belong to both men and women, and we need to return to the core of our being to avoid being caught in the materialistic ways that are polluting our planet and desecrating souls. This group meets from 9:30-11:30 the last Saturday of the month in Room 6.

We have a second "spin-off" group meeting the 2nd Monday of the month to discuss "Your Spacious Self" by Stephanie Bennet Vogt. The author shows us that holding on to our "stuff" (physical and mental) clouds our perceptions and paralyzes our lives. Clutter is anything or thought that prevents us from experiencing our true nature and best life. This group meets from 7-9 pm the second Monday of each month in Room 6.

As always, you are free to join us if you have read the material or not. For more info, contact Kathi Hillyer, kathi-oh@aol.com or 847-477-8331.

Movies with Meaning

Friday, October 9, 7 pm

Merchants of Doubt

Join us in Atherton Hall to view and discuss this 2014 documentary which exposes a concerted strategy to create doubt about the facts of climate change through the use of pundits-for-hire who present themselves as scientific authorities. Based on the 2010 book by Naomi Oreskes, the film interviews industry reps, global warming deniers, environmentalists, and climate scientists to create a riveting behind-the-scenes look at how the fossil fuel industry has been so successful in blocking government action on climate. *Merchants of Doubt* is a beautifully produced film by award-winning filmmaker, Robert Kenner (*Food, Inc.*), showing how the climate denial movement has borrowed from the playbook used by the tobacco industry for years ("Doubt is our product"), preying on people's fears and creating societal division and inaction on climate. This event is sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Committee, with special licensing through Interfaith Power and Light. Discussion will follow the screening.

A People's Climate Movement Event



October 14, 6:30 pm

Join Climate Reality Project and others! The event will begin with a Rally at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights, featuring music and speakers, followed by a 7 pm March to a nearby

park, and a 7:30 closing vigil at a park in downtown Arlington Heights.

October 14 is going to be big: in cities and towns all across the country people and organizations are coming together to demand that our leaders Act on Climate Change.

Last year, 400,000 people showed their power in New York City at the People's Climate March to demand a just transition to a clean energy future. Now's our chance to take that energy and urgency back to our communities in the People's Climate Movement: a national day of action that will show the strength of our movement across the country as the US Government prepares for December's Paris Climate Talks.

We'll be calling on our Governor to take action on climate, and that as a first step he can work to cut carbon pollution and grow clean energy jobs in a strong and just manner in our state.

The more people we have, the stronger the message sent to our elected officials that now is the time to act. Will you join us?

Please see the signup sheet in Atherton Hall. For more information, contact Dan Huntsha, Alan Greenland, or Judy Ball.

Mark Your Calendar

We hope you will join us for these all-church events. Stay tuned for future details.

- All-Ages Halloween Party: Oct 31
- Winter Farmers Market: Nov 8
- Time & Talent Auction: Nov 21
- Fair Trade Fair: Dec 6
- Chocolate Fest: Feb 14
- Music with a Mission: March 5
- Winter Farmers Market: March 13
- Passover Seder: April 29
- MidAmerica Regional Assembly: Apr 29-May 1, St Paul, MN
- Journeys Adult Faith Dev. Retreat: May 6-7
- Congregational Annual Meeting: May 15 (one-service schedule begins)
- UUA General Assembly: June 22-26, Columbus OH

Outside Groups Held at & Open to CCUU

Several outside groups use space at Countryside Church UU and are in alignment with our UU Principles and open to participation by all. There may be a participation fee or other requirements set by the group and which apply to all participants, regardless of CCUU affiliation.

Career Communicators

A Toastmasters International Club dedicated to professional speaking. Meets in Atherton Hall the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7-9 pm. For more info, visit www.careercommunicators.com.

Pride Youth

provides a safe & confidential space for all high school youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) or who are questioning their sexual orientation. More info at www.linksyouth.org/LGBTPrude.

AA

Men's Meeting: Saturdays, 9-10 am

Women's Meeting: Fridays, 7:30 pm

Great Plains Zen Center

GPZC sits meditation on Sundays at 7pm and offers monthly Intro to Zen workshops. For info or to register, go to www.greatplainszen.org.

Job Search Circle

JSC meets in Atherton Hall on Wednesdays, 9-11 am. \$5/meeting. Dress code is business casual. For more info, contact JSC founder Rosemary Monahan, rmonahan@improve-ization.com.

Journey Transgender Support Group

is for anyone transgender, gender queer, androgynous, or gender questioning; meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2:30 pm in classroom 5. Meetings are limited to people 18 or over, unless accompanied by a parent. transgender_journey-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

St Hubert Job Ministry

Events are non-denominational, free, open to all occupations, and held at various member churches. For info, go to <http://www.sainthubert.org/ministries/job.html>.

Upcoming Church Meetings & Events: October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>This calendar shows upcoming Church meetings & events. All meetings and events held in the building are listed on the church website, under Events & Rentals - http://www.ccuu.org/programs-and-events/calendar. If your meeting or event is not listed, please submit a room reservation form (available in the office or on the website with the calendar) to the office.</i></p>						
Oct 4 8:45 am Open Forum Discussion 9 & 11 am Worship & RE-Faith in Action 10am Fellowship & DLRE Search Focus Grp 10am & Noon Intro to CCUU Noon Economic Inequality Discussion 12:20pm 20-30 Somethings	5 7pm Staying Alive (Rem's class)	6 10am Qigong 7pm Ministry Council?	7 7pm World Religions 7pm Climate March planning mtg	8	9 7pm Movies with Meaning	10 8am-Noon Halloween Party crafting 8:30a-2p Board-Ministry Council retreat
Oct 11 8:45 am Open Forum Discussion 9 & 11 am Worship & Rel.Ed. 10am Fellowship & DLRE Search Focus Grp 12pm Black Lives Matter discussion 12:15pm Green Sanctuary Mtg 12:30pm Buddhist Study Group	12 7pm Staying Alive (Rem's class) 7pm Your Spacious Self	13 10am Qigong 7pm AHA Discussion	14 10am Immigrant Voices Discussion 7pm Finance Ctte Mtg	15 7pm Thurs Chalice Circle 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	16 7pm Fri Chalice Circle	17 8am-Noon Halloween Party crafting
Oct 18 8:45 am Open Forum Discussion 9 & 11 am Worship & Rel.Ed. 10am Coffee/Fellowship 12:20pm 20-30 Somethings	19 9am Focus deadline 11am Memoir Makers 7pm Staying Alive	20 10am Qigong	21 7pm Board of Trustees 7pm Journey Inward 7pm World Religions	22 10am Transitions 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24 7pm Drum Circle TBA Circle Suppers
Oct 25 8:45 am Open Forum Discussion 9 & 11 am Worship & Rel.Ed. 10am Fellowship & Fair Trade Sale 5pm Vegan Potluck Dinner	26 7pm Staying Alive 7pm Last Mondays Book Discussion	27 7pm Experiencing God Covenant Grp	28 10am Immigrant Voices Discussion 11:30am Focus 5:45pm Vespers	29 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal Halloween Party set-up	30 Halloween Party set-up	31 9:15am Feminine Divine 6pm All-Ages Halloween Party
Nov 1-Daylight Saving Time ends 8:45 am Open Forum Discussion 9 & 11 am Worship & RE-Faith in Action 10am Fellowship 10am RE Council Mtg 10am & Noon Intro to CCUU 10:15am Chalice Circle Facilitators 12:20pm 20-30 Somethings 6:15pm Book Circle: <i>Being Mortal</i>	11/2 7pm Staying Alive (Rem's class)	11/3 10am Qigong 7pm Ministry Council	11/4 7pm World Religions	11/5 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	11/6 10am Memoir Makers	11/7 9:30am Wellness Beyond Walls

Focus

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For assistance from Lay or Care Ministry,
please call Ken or Jane or Rev. Hilary.

Our Covenant

We unite to strengthen the bonds of kinship among all persons, to promote human dignity, and to increase reverence for life's creating, sustaining, and transforming power through worship, study, and service.

Our Vision

We come together as a congregation to inspire our quests for the spiritual, ethical, and meaningful in life and to advance respect, compassion, and justice in the wider world.

Our Mission

Countryside is seen as the growing voice and source of liberal religion in the northwest Chicago suburbs by...

- creating a place of inclusiveness, welcome, connectedness, compassion and respect
- providing for the spiritual and intellectual growth of members of all ages
- cultivating a vital future for our congregation and community through thoughtful stewardship of our financial resources and our environment
- acting on a social conscience

Upcoming Focus Deadlines

Submit all articles by 9am to ccuu@ccuu.org

- ◆ October 19 (to be published Weds, Oct 28)
- ◆ November 16 (to be published Tues, Nov 24)
- ◆ December 21 (to be published Weds, Dec 30)

Between *Focus* issues, written communication is via E-Updates & the *Sunday Times* insert to the Order of Worship. Submission deadline for e-updates & *Sunday Times* is Weds at 9 am.

Return Service Requested
Time-dated Material—Prompt Delivery Requested

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